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COMIC SHOP NEWS™

MARVEL ZOMBIES DESTROY

Make Way for Goose-Shuffling Zombies!

If there's any enemy even more universally despised than zombies, it's Nazis. So you can imagine just how upset Howard the Duck and Dum-Dum Dugan are when they discover an alternate reality filled with (are you ready for it?) Nazi zombies!

That's just what writer *Frank Marraffino* is throwing into the mix in the ***Marvel Zombies Destroy!*** miniseries, illustrated by *Mirco Pierfederici*. Marraffino offered a little background on this strange reality. "In this world, the Nazis won World War II during the Golden Age, but many years have passed since then. So it's a modernized world, but with the limiting direction that Nazi zombie leadership would have on any progress. Many Golden Age characters do make appearances, though!"

Howard the Duck becomes aware of the existence of this world through his involvement with the group A.R.M.O.R. A.R.M.O.R., introduced by *Fred van Lente* in ***Marvel Zombies 3***, stands for Alternate Reality Monitoring and Operational Response," Marraffino explained. "A.R.M.O.R. guards the Marvel universe against threats of an extra-dimensional nature. Howard the Duck was revealed to be an agent for them in ***Marvel Zombies 5***—which makes sense because of his experience traversing different dimensions. Since coming here from his home on Duckworld, Howard has grown quite fond of his adopted universe and is willing to fight to keep it zombie-free."

Once he realizes that he'll be fighting Nazi zombies, Howard enlists the aid of Dum Dum Dugan in combating them. "Dum Dum has decades of experience fighting Nazis and other fascists alongside Sgt. Fury," Marraffino explained. "For that reason alone it helps to have him along: But there's a more specific reason that Howard enlists Dugan... one that Howard doesn't at first reveal to Dugan. And when Dugan finds out about it, it will cause him to question everything he knows."

This isn't an alternate reality Dum-Dum Dugan; instead, it's the real McCoy. "Dum Dum Dugan and Howard the Duck are both from *our* Marvel Universe," Marraffino said. "The threat they face is from a different reality where the Nazis won World War II by becoming unbeatable zombies. Now those same Nazi zombies want to invade the Marvel Universe, and it's up to Howard and Dugan to stop this from happening!"

As it turns out, the Nazis are the only beings transformed

into zombies—many of the WWII-era Marvel heroes have also been zombified, including the Invaders. So which members of the legendary team will show up as zombie-doppelgangers? Specifically, Captain America be one of them?The problem with becoming a zombie is that the related hunger tends to cloud out higher ideals," Marraffino said. "That's true for members of The Invaders, many who show up very much undead and immoral. But Captain America has never been like anyone else.

"I'm glad you asked about him, in fact. I *can* say that Cap has a presence in this series, but not in the way you might expect. One thing Cap has done is really inspire Dum Dum Dugan and Battlestar (who is along for the fight) and others, and that is the kind of influence that can't be underestimated in a fight like this!"

Is there any chance that, if these zombies prove victorious, they might expand their territory to include other realities? "Yes!" Marraffino said. "The whole goal for the Nazi zombies is to invade other realities. And they have almost completed their cross-dimensional battleship to further that end. If Howard and Dugan don't stop them, they certainly will expand into our reality and every other one!"

Considering how many universes the Marvel Zombies have appeared in and/or threatened since their debut in ***Ultimate Fantastic Four***, is it possible that these undead beings are the secret link that connects every Marvel alternate reality? "Actually, you might be on to something in regards to the zombies' secret nemesis, A.R.M.O.R.," Marraffino replied. "Agents of A.R.M.O.R. have traveled to many realities already, and their directive is to keep monitoring—and, if necessary, to protect us from all other realities."

Was the concept for the series Marraffino's, or was this something developed in-house that he was brought on board to write? "This is an idea that I've wanted to do for a long time. In fact, I pitched a different version of it years ago! The concept of Howard and a group of melting-pot misfits as the secret weapon against the limited worldview of an all-powerful Nazi zombie regime is exactly the kind of thing comics does best.

"Editor *Jake Thomas* was instrumental in focusing on the mission, but also making sure Dum Dum was on board – which ensures the tone is no-holds-barred, over-the-top lunacy with dollops of pathos and patriotism!"

As it turns out, Marraffino is a veteran of both war stories and zombie tales. He wrote a superlative ***Haunted Tank*** series for Vertigo, as well as writing ***Marvel Zombies Supreme***, the previous Marvel Zombies limited series. Was it doubly fun to write a two-concept mash-up in ***Marvel Zombies Destroy?*** "I think the best thing in the world is smashing two different genres together and seeing what develops!" Marraffino replied. "Zombies seem like a natural fit in war comics. The great thing about any genre fiction is the ability to use the familiar tropes as metaphors for the big issues we face in our world. And in the meantime why not have some fun blowing away zombies!"

This may be Marraffino's second zombie project, but he doesn't consider himself Marvel's resident zombie expert quite yet. "I would say that, after the work that *Robert Kirkman* and *Fred van Lente* did for *Marvel Zombies*, I have a *long* way to go before claiming to be a resident expert! I can tell you this, though: there are few gigs in comics that are as fun or satisfying as this!"

Marvel Zombies Destroy #1, a $3.99 comic, was released earlier this month. ***Marvel Zombies Destroy #2*** is scheduled for release this week, with the remaining three issues of the limited series slated for release in June and July.

Red and Re-Red

It's not often that two esteemed comic book creators get to collaborate on a graphic novel... twice!

No, not two graphic novels. The same graphic novel, twice. That's what *Steven T. Seagle* and *Teddy Kristiansen* have done, though—and you can enjoy the results in the unique flipbook graphic novel ***The Red Diary/The Re[a]d Diary.***

The book began as the European graphic novel ***Le Carnet Rouge*** by *Teddy Kristiansen*. The book's moody painted interior art intrigued Seagle. "The images of war were arresting and the sequences set in the world of fine art contrasted them so starkly that I couldn't get it out of my mind," said Seagle. "I immediately wanted to bring the book to American readers as soon as I saw it."

Only one problem: the book was only published in French and in Danish, and Seagle doesn't speak or read either language.

"It started to dawn on me that even though I was taken with Teddy's book, I had *no idea* what it was about! Just a story I'd started to make up in my head about what I assumed was happening in his pictures," Seagle explained. "Eventually, I got Teddy to let me write my version of what I thought was going on before working with him on the translation of what was actually going on."

Then, when the translation was finally done, Seagle got a

Courtesy your friendly neighborhood comics outlet!

second shot at the book, scripting it in English from Kristiansen's translated story. The result is a flip-book that offers two different tales built on the same artwork. "It's amazing that one set of images could support two totally different tales," Seagle said. "Because, despite my best forensic efforts, our two stories turned out nothing alike!"

Find out just how different they are in mid-June when ***The Read Diary/The Re[a]d Diary,*** a 144-page hardcover, is scheduled for release.

THE FIRST HERO IN ROBOTIC ARMOR

THE SPIDER

SATAN'S MURDER MACHINES BY NORVELL W. PAGE

Spider-Armor!

Think that Spider-Man is the first arachnid-inspired hero to don his own battle armor? Think again! The Spider did it almost three-quarters of a century earlier—and readers will get a chance to read all about it in ***The Spider: Satan's Murder Machines.***

The story, written by pulp fiction great *Norvell W. Page,* pits the Spider against an adversary who uses robotic armor to commit his crimes. In order to combat him, the Spider dons his own robotic armor to confront the mastermind's armor-clad army.

"Black Dog Books is publishing ***The Spider: Satan's Murder Machines*** as a special oneshot. This is the latest addition to an impressive line of pulp reprints from Black Dog," Argosy Communications' *Joel Friedman* told *CSN.*

For those who'd like to read more of the Spider's classic pulp adventures, "Girasol Collectables remains the main licensee of ***The Spider;***" Friedman continued. "They've launched a trade paperback line of ***The Spider Pulp Doubles*** which reprints two novels in one volume."

And of course, ***The Spider*** is the star of an all-new comics series from Dynamite entertainment. The series by *David Liss,* which updates ***The Spider*** to contemporary times, was so successful that the first issue sold out the day of release—and that could translate to an eager audience for original ***Spider*** adventures in pulp form!

The Spider: Satan's Murder Machines is scheduled for July release.

CSNsider

•Do comics make great art? That's the subject of many debates—but the folks at Bluewater are confident that great art will make good comics, as they launch a series of biographical comics focusing on some of the world's best-known artists, including *Salvador Dali, Pablo Picasso, Vincent Van Gogh,* and *Andy Warhol.* What makes these books different from other Bluewater titles is that the each biography will be presented in the style of that artist. The books are produced by Bluewater and German artist *Willi Bloess.* "They are a perfect complement as a collectible or as an introductory primer to the life, work, technique and enduring legacy of the artist," Bluewater publisher *Darren Davis* said. Look for them this fall.

•*Rich Johnston's* bleedingcool.com reports that DC will commemorate the New 52's one-year anniversary in September by presenting special zero issues of all of their relaunch titles, which will present stories that take place before the first issues of each series; some will feature flashback tales, while others will feature as-yet-untold origins. The books will return to their normal numbering with the thirteenth issues in October. Creators such as *Ivan Reis, Jamal Igle, Cliff Chiang, Joe Prado,* and *Francis Manapul* reportedly confirmed these plans at Boston Comic Con.

•Aspen continues their "Search for the Light" ***Soulfire*** summer event in July with a quartet of ***Soulfire*** titles: ***Soulfire—Despair, Soulfire—Faith, Soulfire—Power,*** and ***Soulfire—Grace.***

•Jinx, the teenage version of the loveable tyke featured in Archie's ***Li'l Jinx,*** has earned a sequel to her first original graphic novel. The second book, ***Jinx: Little Miss Steps*** by *J. Torres & Rick Burchett.* "We'll see Jinx finding her niche at the school, which of course will involve a team sport," Torres said. "We'll also continue fleshing out the supporting cast and exploring Jinx's relationships with them." The second volume will also feature Jinx's mother, who was seldom seen in the original strips and didn't appear at all in the first original graphic novel. In keeping with the book's "real, not ideal" approach, the storyline will touch on topic such as dealing with divorce and struggling to live up to parental expectations.

•*Ales Kot & Riley Rossmo* present a high school hostage situation that threatens to go totally out of control in ***Wild Children,*** a 64-page graphic novel slated for mid-July release. Rossmo took a very different artistic approach for this tale. "For me, ***Wild Children*** is an experiment in cleanliness," said Rossmo. "My work is usually dirty, scratchy, messy -- but here I wanted to try a style I had only used in some of the editorial work I'd done. All line, no spotted blacks."

•***Secret Society of Super-Villains Volume 2 HC*** has expanded to 328 pages with a higher cover price of $39.99.

•Wonder what happened to ***New Teen Titans #38,*** which was not included in the recently released ***New Teen Titans Omnibus Volume 2 HC?*** For interrelated storyline reasons, that issue has been moved to ***New Teen Titans Omnibus Volume 3*** instead.

•IDW, home of some of comics' finest collections of comic strips, is launching a new line of reprints in a new format later this year under the ***Library of American Comics***

SPIDER-MAN BY STAN LEE & LARRY LIEBER

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WHILE BACKSTAGE...
I'LL BET PETER IS OFF PLAYING SPIDER-MAN...
BUT HE DIDN'T TELL ME BECAUSE HE'S AFRAID I'D WORRY!
STAN LEE LARRY LIEBER 5-7

COMIC SHOP NEWS
Published weekly since 1987 by Comic Shop News, Inc.
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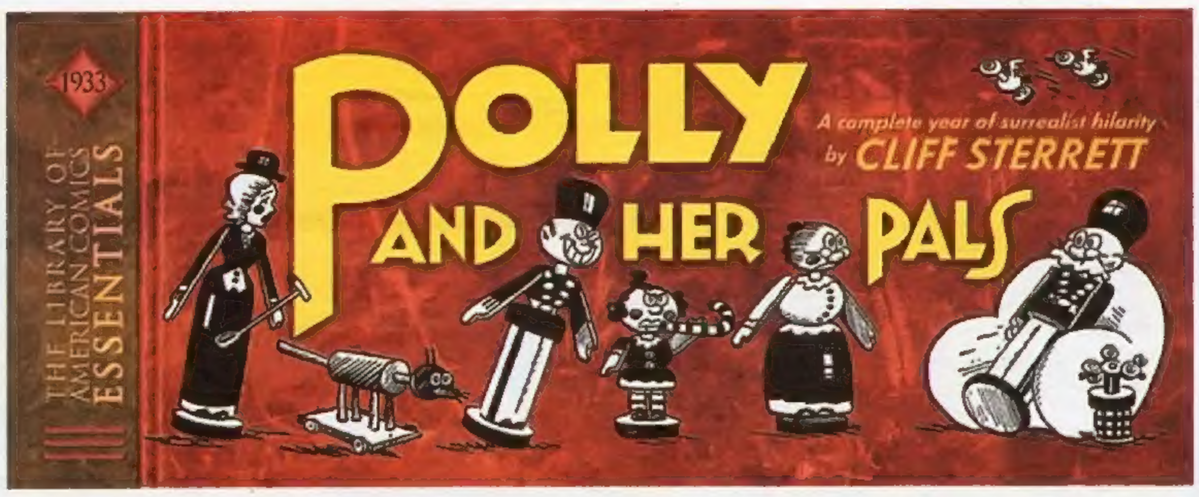

Essentials imprint. Thee books will be printed in an 11" wide by 4.25" high format, with each page containing a single daily strip; each hardcover volume will present one year's worth of dailies at a $19.99 cover price. "It's different from our other books which generally contain two or three years of strips printed three to a page," *LOAC* Creative Director *Dean Mullaney* said. "By reproducing the strips one per page in an oblong format, it allows us to have an experience similar to what newspaper buyers had fifty to a hundred years ago—reading the comics one day at a time."

The first three volumes in the series are ***Baron Bean*** by *George Herriman*, collecting the first of three years of the strip by the creator of ***Krazy Kat*** (September 2012); ***Polly and Her Pals*** by *Cliff Sterrett*, collecting all the strips from 1933 (January 2013); and ***The Gumps: The Saga of Mary Gold,*** collecting a year's worth of strips originally published in 1928-1929 (March 2013).

•First Comics, the publisher responsible for such 1980s hits as ***American Flagg, Jon Sable, Nexus, Badger,*** and ***Grimjack,*** is returning to comic shops later this year. While the company no longer has the rights to many of its most famous titles, the revived First Comics will launch with a new kid-friendly ***Zen: Intergalactic Ninja*** series and reprints of the ***Zen*** stories originally published by Archie; recolored versions of *Joe Staton & Nicola Cuti's* ***E-Man;*** and a number of new graphic novels (some featuring new tales of vintage First characters, and others featuring original characters and concepts).

•This summer, *Mark Waid & Chris Samnee* join forces to launch ***The Rocketeer: Cargo of Doom!,*** the first original single-story ***Rocketeer*** miniseries since the passing of *Dave Stevens*. The drama begins when a mysterious tanker pulls into L.A. Harbor carrying a dangerous cargo... and that's all the reason Cliff Secord needs to soar into action!

"As someone who bought every ***Rocketeer*** comic the day they first came out, this is a dream project for me," *Mark Waid* said. "*Dave Stevens* created a terrific, iconic hero who beautifully and uniquely spans the gap between the pulp heroes of the 1930s and the comic-book crimebusters of the 1940s. He's got a foot in both those worlds, and he's a ball to write. And working with *Chris Samnee* was the part of IDW's offer that sealed the deal for me."

"I couldn't be more excited to be drawing ***The Rocketeer,***" Samnee added. "I've been a fan of the character, and a massive fan of Dave Stevens's work since I was a kid, and getting a chance to draw him is a real dream come true. I can't wait for folks to see what we've been cooking up."

Look for the first issue in mid-August.

Book 'Em!

Lots of great collections are on the horizon for late 2012. Among those deluxe books we can look forward to later this year are:

•***52 Omnibus HC,*** a massive 1200+ page compendium of the entire 52 series.

•***Essential Captain Marvel Volume 2 TP,*** collecting ***Captain Marvel #s 22-35 & 37-46, Iron Man #55,*** and ***Marvel Feature #12.***

•***Essential Warlock TP,*** collecting ***Warlock #s 1-15, Strange Tales #s 178-181,*** and much more.

•***Marvel Zomnibus HC,*** a 1200 page collection of the ***Marvel Zombies*** tales.

•***Showcase Presents Amethyst, Princess of Gemworld Volume 1 TP,*** collecting the early issues of the fantasy-adventure saga.

•***Showcase Presents the Flash Volume 4 TP,*** collecting ***The Flash #s 162-182.***

•***Showcase Presents Weird War Tales Volume 1 TP,*** collecting the early issues of this memorable war-horror series.

•***Showcase Presents World's Finest Volume 4 TP,*** collecting ***World's Finest #s 174-201.***

•***Ultimate Comics Spider-Man: Death of Spider-Man Omnibus HC,*** collecting the ***Ultimate Comics Avengers*** and ***Ultimate Comics Spider-Man*** issues leading up to the death of Peter Parker.

Back to Press

Apparently 2012 is shaping up to be a banner year for comic book sales, judging from the incredible number of books that are returning to press to meet demand. This week's list includes over two dozen titles:

•***Amazing Spider-Man #684 2nd Printing*** (MAR128199), featuring a variant cover by *Stefano Caselli,* in stores 5/30.

•***Astonishing X-Men #49 2nd Printing*** (MAR128203), featuring a variant cover by *Dustin Weaver,* in stores 5/30.

•***Avengers #25 2nd Printing*** (MAR128142), featuring a variant cover by *Daniel Acuna,* in stores now.

•***Avengers Vs. X-Men #1 3rd Printing*** (MAR128197), featuring a variant cover by *Jim Cheung,* in stores 5/30.

•***Avengers Vs. X-Men #2 3rd Printing*** (MAR128198), featuring a variant cover by *Jim Cheung,* in stores 5/30.

•***Avengers Vs. X-Men #3 2nd Printing*** (MAR128097), featuring a variant cover by *Jim Cheung,* in stores now.

•***Avenging Spider-Man #6 2nd Printing*** (MAR128200), in stores 5/30.

•***AVS VS #1 2nd Printing*** (FEB128257), featuring a variant cover by *Andy Kubert,* in stores now.

•***Batman #3 2nd Printing*** (MAR128169), featuring a recolored version of the original cover, in stores now.

•***Daredevil #11 2nd Printing*** (MAR128202), in stores 5/30.

•***Epic Kill #1 2nd Printing*** (MAR128258), in stores 5/30.

•***Fanboys Vs. Zombies #2 2nd Printing*** (MAR128148), in stores 5/30.

•***Higher Earth #1 2nd Printing*** (MAR128272), featuring a variant cover by *Zach Howard,* in stores 5/30.

•***Mind the Gap #1 2nd Printing*** (MAR128267), featuring a sketch version of the original cover, in stores now.

•***New Avengers #25 2nd Printing*** (MAR128196), featuring a variant cover by *Mike Deodato,* in stores 5/30.

•***Nightwing #8 2nd Printing*** (MAR128166), featuring a recolored version of the original cover, in stores now.

•***Popeye #1 2nd Printing*** (MAR128262), featuring a variant cover by *Bruce Ozella,* in stores 6/13.

•***The Punisher #10 2nd Printing*** (MAR128201), in stores 5/30.

•***Saga #1 4th Printing*** (MAR128165), in stores now.

•***The Scarlet Spider #4 2nd Printing*** (MAR128143), featuring a variant cover by *Ryan Stegman,* in stores now.

•***Secret Avengers #26 2nd Printing*** (MAR128204), featuring a variant cover by *Alan Davis,* in stores 5/30.

•***The Spider #1 2nd Printing*** (MAR128256), featuring a new cover, in stores 5/30.

•***Supurbia #1 3rd Printing*** (MAR128149), in stores 5/30.

•***Thief of Thieves #2 3rd Printing*** (MAR128168), in stores now.

•***Thief of Thieves #3 3rd Printing*** (MAR128239), in stores 5/30.

•***Thief of Thieves #4 2nd Printing*** (MAR128240), in stores 5/30.

•***Uncanny X-Men #11 2nd Printing*** (MAR128205), featuring a variant cover by *Greg Land,* in stores 5/30.

•***Wolverine & the X-Men #9 2nd Printing*** (MAR128144), featuring a variant cover by *Chris Bachalo,* in stores now.

TIME FOR OUR ENTRANCE, HARDY. SO...BREAK A LEG.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?!
N-NOTHING! IT'S JUST A SHOW-BIZ EXPRESSION!
STAN LEE
LARRY LIEBER
5-8
WOW! HE LOOKED SO GUILTY! ALMOST AS IF HE CAUSED VINCE'S BROKEN LEG.
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AMERICAN VAMPIRE: LORD OF NIGHT-MARES #1 (OF 5)

Scott Snyder (W); Dustin Nguyen (A)
(Vertigo/DC APR120283 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

The Vassals of the Morning Star want Felicia Book to help them track down the most powerful vampire of all time... and that's going to force Felicia to confront threats the likes of which she never imagined.

Why Should You Care?

Scott Snyder takes readers back to post-war Europe in a new tale of the Vassals of the Morning Star in this limited series that complements the ongoing *American Vampire.*

AVENGERS VS X-MEN #5 (OF 12)

Matt Fraction (W); John Romita Jr. (A)
(Marvel APR120569 $3.99)

AVENGERS VS X-MEN #6 (OF 12)

Jonathan Hickman (W); Olivier Coipel (A)
(Marvel APR120575 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

The Phoenix takes a host... so where does that leave the Marvel Universe? And how will the situation hange once Scarlet Witch enters the fray?

Why Should You Care?

Not even *Civil War* led to a superhero split of this magnitude—and not even *Secret Invasion* had higher stakes. The future of the Marvel Universe is on the line in this fast-paced, high-impact limited series... and you can be sure that everything *won't* be back to normal by the time it ends!

BALTIMORE: DR. LESKOVAR'S REMEDY #1 (OF 2)

Mike Mignola & Christopher Golden (W); Ben Stenbeck (A)
(Dark Horse APR120026 $3.50)

What's the Scoop?

An army of malformed vampires controls a small Croatian town... but that control is about to come to an end if Lord Henry Baltimore has anything to say about it.

Why Should You Care?

Mike Mignola & Christopher Golden blend horror and heroic adventure perfectly in this tale of night horrors and crimes against humanity... and vampirism!

BEFORE WATCHMEN: COMEDIAN #1 (OF 6)

Brian Azzarello (W); J.G. Jones (A)
(DC APR120149 $3.99)

BEFORE WATCHMEN: MINUTEMEN #1 (OF 6)

Darwyn Cooke (W/A)
(DC APR120137 $3.99)

BEFORE WATCHMEN: NITE OWL #1 (OF 4)

J. Michael Straczynski (W); Andy Kubert & Joe Kubert (A)
(DC APR120155 $3.99)

BEFORE WATCHMEN: SILK SPECTRE #1 (OF 4)

Darwyn Cooke (W); Amanda Conner (A)
(DC APR120143 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

The pre-*Watchmen* adventures of the Comedian, the Silk Spectre, Nite Owl, and the Minutemen are revealed in the first original *Watchmen* material in a quarter-century. And as an added bonus, each issue includes a backup *Crimson Corsair* tale by *Len Wein & John Higgins.*

CSN TOP CO

Why Should You Care?

Take some of comics most popular and best-known heroes of the post-Silver Age, add in some of the industry's most popular and successful creative talents, and the result is perhaps the most eagerly anticipated series of prequels in comic book history! And for the die-hard collector, there's a stunning series of *Jim Lee* 1-for-200 variant covers!

EARTH TWO #2

James Robinson (W); Nicola Scott & Trevor Scott (A)
(DC APR120166 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

Having suffered the devastating loss of some of its most powerful heroes, Earth 2 is a world in crisis—but there are more heroes on the way, beginning with the arrival of Mr. Terrific and the transformation of Jay Garrick...

Why Should You Care?

For months, DC developed the rich, complex world of the New 52—and now it's time to explore the multiverse in this series that boldly reboots the concept of a parallel Earth populated by analogues of some of DC's mightiest heroes.

EXTERMINATION #1

Simon Spurrier (W); Jeffrey Edwards (A)
(Boom APR120887 $1.00)

What's the Scoop?

When the Earth is conquered by alien invaders, the world's greatest superheroes and most malevolent supervillains have to put old enmities aside in order to prevent the extermination of humanity!

Why Should You Care?

The renaissance of superhero revisionism continues in this thought-provoking apocalyptic series that explores the relativism of heroism and villainy when both are faced with an even *greater*—and much more devastating—evil. If you liked ***Irredeemable*** and ***Incorruptible,*** you're going to love what you find in ***Extermination.***

HARBINGER #1

Joshua Dysart (W); Khari Evans (A)
(Valiant APR121252 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

An out-of-work, out-of-luck teenager is actually the psionic-powered harbinger of humanity's next stage of existence. But a

"A PHOTOGRAPHER SAID I WAS PICTURE PERFECT."
"MAYBE HE MEANT YOU OUGHTA BE HUNG!"
THAT LINE ISN'T IN THE SCRIPT!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH HARDY?
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OMICS: JUNE

machiavellian business magnate with his own agenda—and his own psionic powers—has his own plans for the teen with amazing mental powers...

Why Should You Care?

Valiant is back with a vengeance—and if you checked out the first issue of *X-O Manowar,* you know that they're putting in the time, effort, and creativity to do this relaunch right! *Joshua Dysart & Khari Evans* present a tautly driven tale of power, ambition, manipulation, and conspiracy that's going to help create a whole new generation of Valiant converts.

IDOLIZED #0

David Schwartz (W); Micah Gunnell (A)

(Aspen APR120823 $2.50)

What's the Scoop?

In a world that pits super-powered teens against one another in a televised competition for membership in the world's top supergroup, a girl with superpowers sets out on a mission of revenge... but soon finds herself on a path to redemption.

Why Should You Care?

Aspen launches its first-ever superhero series, a reality-TV-inspired adventure that the publisher describes as "*True Grit* meets *American Idol*... with capes!"

INFERNAL MAN-THING #1 (OF 3)

Steve Gerber (W); Kevin Nowlan (A)

(Marvel APR120649 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

"Screenplay of the Living Dead Man" blends horror, heroism, mystery, self-analytical angst, and semi-autobiographical narrative in a distinctive sequel to the 1970s tale "Song- Cry of the Living Dead Man." But it's not so much what it's *about* that's significant here... it's the fact that it *is.*

Why Should You Care?

At long last, the late *Steve Gerber's* final *Man-Thing* tale, originally envisioned as a graphic novel, is completed as a no-ads three-issue limited series illustrated by *Kevin Nowlan.* It's the comics equivalent of an unreleased Beatles album, an unpublished *Philip K. Dick* novel, or an unseen Salvador Dali painting...

IRRESISTIBLE #1

Raven Gregory (W)

(Zenescope APR121336 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

When Allen Keeg rescued an old woman from a mugging, he had no idea that she would use supernatural powers to make him irresistible to ever woman he meets. But is that a gift or a curse?...

Why Should You Care?

Raven Gregory, the mastermind behind many of Zenescope's most successful projects, offers a "monkey's paw" tale of love, desire, and loneliness.

JUSTICE LEAGUE #10

Geoff Johns (W); Jim Lee (A)

(DC APR120161 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

The identity of the Justice League's newest and deadliest foe is revealed in the second part of "The Villain's Journey," while the origin of Shazam continues in the back-up tale, courtesy of *Geoff Johns & Gary Frank.*

Why Should You Care?

Their first arc established Darkseid as the primal force of malevolence in the New 52 Universe, but this time around, *Geoff Johns & Jim Lee* are creating their own diabolical addition to the Justice League's rogues' gallery.

KISS #1

Chris Ryall (W); Jamal Igle (A)

(IDW APR120322 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Four ordinary human in 1920's Chicago are caught up in an epic battle that resonates across time and space as the power-chord pantheon returns to comics.

Why Should You Care?

Well, it's KISS... and if that doesn't immediately make this a must-have for you, then you're not the target audience for this comic!

LOEG III—CENTURY #3: 2009

Alan Moore (W); Kevin O'Neill (A)

(Top Shelf APR121232 $9.95)

What's the Scoop?

In 2009 London, a magical child has grown up to claim his dreadful heritage, because there is no League to stand in his way... or is there?...

Why Should You Care?

Alan Moore & Kevin O'Neill bring the Extraordinary saga into the 21st Century with this complex tale of terror, prophecy, and hope. Is it the *final LoEG* tale? Let's hope not!

THE MASSIVE #1

Brian Wood (W); Kristian Donaldson (A)

(Dark Horse APR120008 $3.50)

What's the Scoop?

What does it mean to be an environmentalist after the world's ended? That's the question that Callum Israel continually asks himself as he captains the environmental-action trawler *Kapital* across the oceans of a post-disaster Earth in search of its missing sister ship *The Massive.*

Why Should You Care?

Brian Wood presents a post-apocalyptic *Moby Dick* that pits one driven man seeking purpose in a world gone awry. It's the sort of personal storytelling that Wood excels in, as readers of *DMZ* already know...

PROPHECY #1

Ron Marz (W); Walter Geovanni (A)

(Dynamite APR120993 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

It's 2012—the year the Mayan doomsday prophecy says the world will end. And it appears that the prophecy is coming to pass unless Vampirella, Red Sonja, Dracula, Dorian Gray, Purgatory, Pantha, and other heroes and villains of the Dynamite Universe can join forces to combat a greater evil.

Why Should You Care?

Ron Marz, a veteran of all-star-extravaganza crossover adventures (he just helmed Top Cow's *Artifacts,* for instance), helms the first linewide Dynamite event miniseries—and if Marz is on board, you *know* it's gonna be good.

SOULFIRE: HOPE #1

J.T. Krul (W); Jose Varese (A)

(Aspen APR120826 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Malikai is missing, and it's up to the Five Masters to find him. And that means that it's time for a quest!

Why Should You Care?

J.T. Krul kicks off "The Search for the Light," Aspen's first-ever crossover event that will lead to major changes in the Soulfire Universe.

SPIDER-MEN #1 (OF 5)

Brian Bendis (W); Sara Pichelli (A)

(Marvel APR120603 $3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Spider-Man, meet Spider-Man! The Marvel Universe's Peter Parker and the Ultimate Marvel Universe's Miles Morales cross paths in this historic limited series... but what part does Mysterio have to play in all this?

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Why Should You Care?

Marvel said it would never happen—but here it is, the historic meeting of the Marvelverse and the Ultiverse! Find out what this means for the future of both worlds in this must-read miniseries.

Check 'Em Out: Comics You Should Be Reading!

ACTION COMICS #10

(DC APR120181 $3.99)

While ***Justice League*** may be the highest-profile New 52 title, *Grant Morrison's* ***Action Comics*** is the most pivotal, as Morrison continues to build the legend of the Man of Steel, the hero who is the centerpost of the DC Universe, new *or* old. This issue pits Superman against a hunter who's killed every living thing he's ever tracked... and now he's tracking Superman.

AQUAMAN #10

(DC APR120170 $2.99)

Only *Geoff Johns* could give us a reality in which Aquaman is not only one of the most significant heroes, but also a key member in a superteam that predates the Justice League itself!

BATMAN INCORPORATED #2

(DC APR120189 $2.99)

New 52, Old DCU... it's all part of the same grand tapestry for *Grant Morrison,* whose ***Batman Incorporated*** continues a story that began in a prior DCU. Batman and Talia are still at war over the fate of their child, Damian, as the drama continues in inimitable Morrison style.

DARK AVENGERS #175

(Marvel APR120597 $2.99)

The Thunderbolts are no more... make way for the Dark Avengers! (But they kept the old numbering just so you wouldn't feel *too* lost).

FATIMA: THE BLOOD SPINNERS #1 (OF 4)

(Dark Horse APR120010 $3.99)

Gilbert Hernandez introduces a future in which a drug called "spin" offers the wildest trip imaginable, followed by its users' inevitable, rapid deterioration into undead flesh eaters. Despite the side effect, the drug is so popular that the human population is dying out!

MARS ATTACKS #1

(IDW APR120315 $3.99)

No dopey *Tim Burton* farce here—this is the intense tale of a planetary invasion, brought to you by ***Chew*** writer *John Layman* and ***Hitman*** and ***Boys*** illustrator *John McCrea.*

PANTHA #1

(Dynamite APR120996 $3.99)

She's an avatar for an Egyptian goddess. She's a feral shapeshifter. And she's a pivotal player in Dynamite's Vampirellaverse. Make way for Pantha, slinking into comic shops in June.

RED DIARY RE(A)D DIARY FLIPBOOK HC

(Image APR120427 $29.99)

It's two... two... *two* comics in one. One side presents a *Steven Seagle* script based on a translation of the *Teddy Kristiansen* graphic novel. The other side presents a different Seagle script for the same book, produced by Seagle before he collaborated on the translation.

TRINITY: GRAPHIC HISTORY OF FIRST ATOMIC BOMB GN

(Hill & Wang MAR121088 $22.00)

It was the blast that changed the world. The development of the first atomic bomb is the focus of this fascinating graphic novel that follows the struggle to build—and the decision to drop—the most destructive weapon ever unleashed in wartime.

Collected Cool: June's Best Reprint Editions

ADVENTURES INTO THE UNKNOWN ARCHIVES HC VOL 1

(Dark Horse FEB120054 $49.99)

Collects the first four pre-code issues of the ACG horror-suspense series, featuring work by *Fred Guardineer, Al Feldstein, Leonard Starr, Edvard Moritz,* and others.

ALIEN: ILLUSTRATED STORY ARTISTS ED HC

(Titan APR121227 $75.00)

IDW's ***Artists Editions*** inspire this oversized hardcover collection of the *Archie Goodwin-Walter Simonson* adaptation of the classic *Ridley Scott* film, shot from the original art and reproduced same-size.

BATMAN VS THE BLACK GLOVE DELUXE ED HC

(DC FEB120256 $29.99)

Collecting Dark Knight-reshaping tales by *Grant Morrison* from ***Batman #s 655-658, 663-669 & 672-675.***

CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN OMNIBUS BY JACK KIRBY HC

(DC FEB120263 $39.99)

The *Jack Kirby* tales that paved the way for ***Fantastic Four #1*** are featured in this collection of ***Showcase #s 6, 7, 11, & 12*** and ***Challengers of the Unknown #s 1-8.***

DAVID MAZZUCCHELLI'S DAREDEVIL: BORN AGAIN ARTIST EDITION HC

(IDW MAR120352 $199.00)

This is as close as we'll get to owning the original art for this classic Daredevil tale by *Frank Miller & Dave Mazzuchelli.* Each page is reproduced in the same size as the original art, scanned in full color to show all the blue-lines, corrections, paste-ups, and underlying pencil work beneath the finished inks.

EC: HARVEY KURTZMAN CORPSE OF THE IMJIN AND OTHER STORIES HC

(Fantagraphics APR121090 $28.99)

EC: WALLY WOOD—CAME THE DAWN AND OTHER STORIES HC

(Fantagraphics APR121089 $24.99)

Two artist-themed hardcovers collecting some of the best from the EC era, along with essays and informative notes.

GRENDEL OMNIBUS: HUNTER ROSE TP VOL 1

(Dark Horse FEB120053 $24.99)

This hefty compendium includes ***Grendel: Devil by the Deed;*** the short story collections ***Grendel: Black, White, & Red*** and **Grendel: Red, White, & Black**, featuring a host of legendary guest artists; and the epic ***Grendel: Behold the Devil.***.

INFINITE CRISIS OMNIBUS HC

(DC FEB120253 $150.00)

This whopper of a hardcover collects ***Infinite Crisis #s 1-7*** along with ***Day of Vengeance #s 1-6, Rann/Thanagar War #s 1-6,*** and much more.

SHOWCASE PRESENTS SHOWCASE TP VOL 1

(DC MAR120257 $19.99)

Presenting the first twenty-one issues of DC's Silver-Age-spawning tryout series; this volume features the first appearances of the Flash, the Challengers of the Unknown, Adam Strange, and Space Ranger, along with the first Lois Lane solo comic.

SILVER STREAK ARCHIVES FROM THE ORIGINAL DAREDEVIL HC VOL 1

(Dark Horse FEB120055 $59.99)

Collecting the earliest appearances of the original Golden Age Daredevil, courtesy of *Jack Binder, Jack Cole,* and other Golden Age greats.

SUPERMAN ACTION COMICS ARCHIVES HC VOL 6

(DC NOV110202 $59.99)

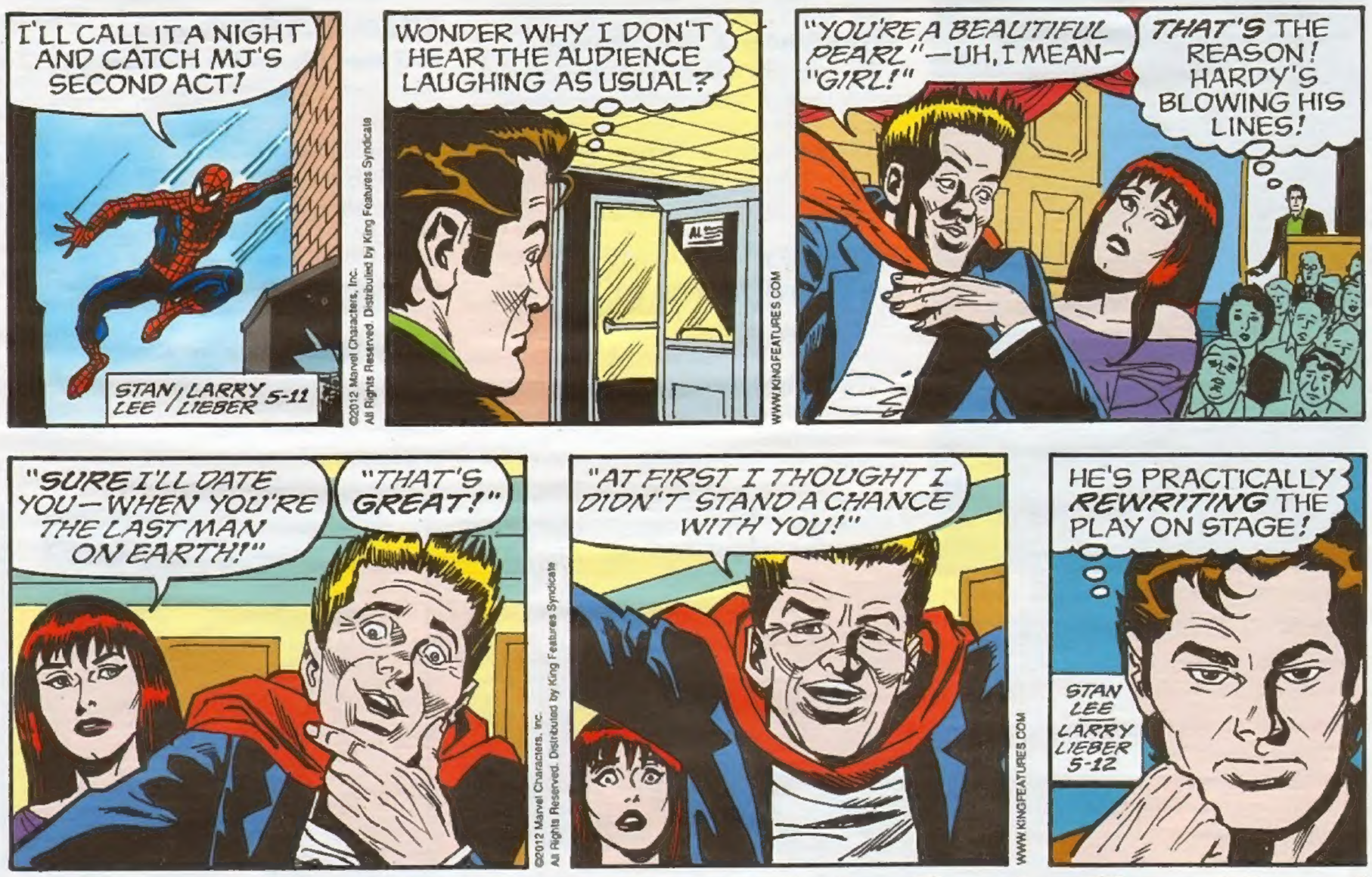
Superman enters the post World War II era in these stories from ***Action Comics #86-102.***

FYI: Must-Have Additions to Your Reference Library

BATMAN: WORLD OF THE DARK KNIGHT HC

(DK MAR121327 $24.99)

Want to know all about the Dark Knight's crimefighting career? Then this is the book for you: it's filled with info about his significant adventures, battles, loves, allies, and enemies, complemented with full-color comic book illustrations taken from throughout Batman's seventy-plus year career.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WONDER WHY I DON'T HEAR THE AUDIENCE LAUGHING AS USUAL?
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THAT'S THE REASON! HARDY'S BLOWING HIS LINES!
"SURE I'LL DATE YOU—WHEN YOU'RE THE LAST MAN ON EARTH!"
"THAT'S GREAT!"
"AT FIRST I THOUGHT I DIDN'T STAND A CHANCE WITH YOU!"
HE'S PRACTICALLY REWRITING THE PLAY ON STAGE!
STAN LEE LARRY LIEBER 5-12
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BIG JOHN BUSCEMA: COMICS & DRAWINGS HC

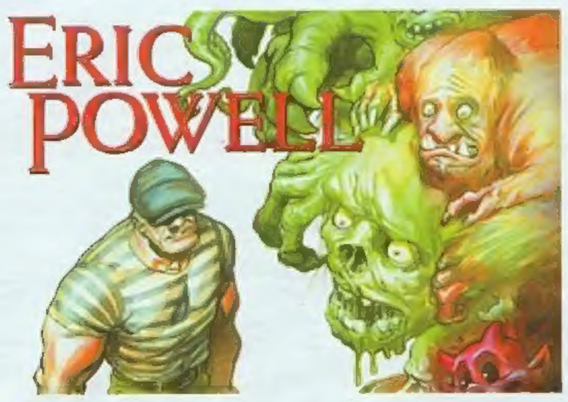
(IDW MAR120393 $59.99)

This is the ultimate art book for fans of Big *John Buscema*. This 300 page hardcover is a special edition of the fine art catalog created for the most extensive exhibition of Buscema's art ever staged.

BLEEDING COOL MAGAZINE #0

(Bleeding Cool APR120869 $1.49)

Wizard fell by the wayside over a year ago, and in the months since then, several magazines have announced their plans to fill the void—but *Rich Johnston's* ***Bleeding Cool*** just might the publication that can actually *do it*.



MODERN MASTERS SC VOL 28: ERIC POWELL

(TwoMorrows APR121242 $15.95)

Spotlighting the career of ***Goon*** creator *Eric Powell*, complete with a comprehensive interview and oodles of artwork, much never before seen.

PARENTS GUIDE TO THE BEST KIDS' COMICS: CHOOSING TITLES CHILDREN LOVE SC

(Krause APR121385 $16.99)

An insightful look at 100 of the best comics currently available for young readers, along with a suggested reading list of hundreds of other outstanding titles. The reading level guide, clear comments, and accompanying comic samples guide users to the best choices for every child.

SUPERMAN: HIGH FLYING HISTORY OF AMERICA'S MOST ENDURING HERO HC

(Random House APR121387 $27.00)

Larry Tye offers a history of The Man of Steel, from his pre-DC origins through his comics debut and on through the present. This volume looks at the Superman phenomenon in comics, television, film, and more.

Hot Commodities: June's Hottest Merchandising & Collectibles

DARK KNIGHT RISES: BATMAN 1/6 SCALE ICON STATUE

(DC Direct MAR120298 $129.99)

DARK KNIGHT RISES: BATMAN BUST

(DC Direct MAR120295 $80.00)

DARK KNIGHT RISES: CATWOMAN 1/6 SCALE ICON STATUE

(DC Direct MAR120297 $129.99)

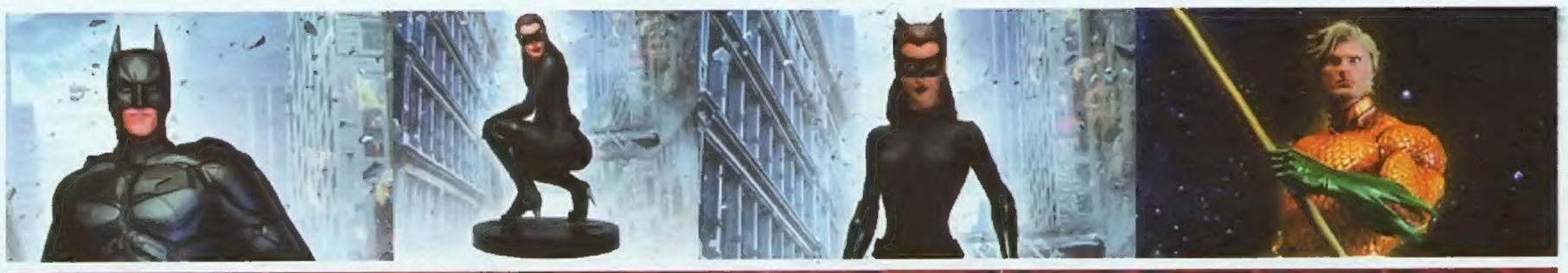
DARK KNIGHT RISES: CATWOMAN BUST

(DC Direct MAR120294 $80.00)

JUSTICE LEAGUE AQUAMAN ACTION FIGURE

(DC Direct MAR120301 $28.00)

DC's New 52 superstar is translated into three dimensions in this articulated action figure based on the designs of *Jim Lee*.



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